

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 INR-05 CIAE-00 EB-03 OES-02

L-01 SP-02 NEA-07 /049 W

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R 181916Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1409

S E C R E T PARIS 18697

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, VS

SUBJECT: REPORTED PRG MEETING WITH FOREIGN OIL COMPANIES

REF: STATE 167333

1. IN PERIODIC TOUR D'HORIZON MEETING WITH QUAI ACTING DIRECTOR FOR ASIA BOLLE, EMBOFF RAISED GENERAL SUBJECT OF PRG CONTACTS WITH FOREIGNERS. IN COURSE OF REPLY SUBJECT OF PETROLEUM CAME UP, AND BOLLE MENTIONED PRG FOREIGN MINISTER BINH'S SIGNING IN ALGIERS ON JUNE 13 AN AGREEMENT CONCERNING (A) ALGERIAN SUPPLY OF MODEST QUANTITY OF FINISHED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS, AND (B) COOPERATION PRINCIPALLY IN HYDROCARBONS. BOLLE WENT ON TO SAY THAT TO GOF KNOWLEDGE PRG HAS NOT INITIATED ANY CONTACTS WITH PETROLEUM CONCERNS IN PARIS, AND FOR THEIR PART, THE FRENCH COMPANIES HAVE NOT YET MOVED TO MAKE CONTACT WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NEW AUTHORITIES IN SAIGON. BOLLE THOUGHT THAT THE OIL COMPANIES WERE AWARE THAT THE DRV AND PRG WERE STILL THRASHING OUT HIGH PRIORITY FOREIGN AFFAIRS PROBLEMS, AND IT WOULD BE A WHILE BEFORE THE PRG WOULD HAVE ANY MECHANISM IN PLACE TO DISCUSS PETROLEUM.

2. COMMENT. WE BELIEVE THAT BOLLE WAS REPORTING WHAT THE QUAI KNOWS, AND WE BELIEVE THAT IT IS LIKELY (IF NOT SECRET

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CERTAIN) THAT BOLLE WOULD KNOW ANY INFORMATION ON THIS

SUBJECT AVAILABLE TO THE QUAI. THE POSSIBILITY REMAINS
THAT THE QUAI IS NOT INFORMED; SO WE CANNOT BE CERTAIN
THAT REPORT IS FALSE.

3. BECAUSE OF THE SENSITIVITY OF THE ORIGINAL REPORT
(CONTROLLED DISSEM AND NO DISSEM ABROAD), WE DID NOT
MENTION POSSIBILITY A MEETING HAD BEEN HELD JULY 15. WE
HAVE ALSO BEEN RELUCTANT TO QUERY OTHER CONTACTS HERE
SUCH AS OIL COMPANIES -- WHO MIGHT NOT GIVE TRUTHFUL
RESPONSE ANYWAY. IF DEPARTMENT WISHES FURTHER EFFORT,
PLEASE INFORM.
GAMMON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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